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THE CONSCRIPTION TRIBUNAL.

FIRST MEETING.

TEN CASES DEALT WITH. FOUR TOTAL EXEMPTIONS.

The first meeting of the Hongkong Conscription Tribunal was held at the Council Chamber yesterday afternoon. Out of the ten cases considered, total exemption was granted in four. Every man who has been passed as medically fit for active service under the recent Conscription Act will appear before the Tribunal whether exemption is desired or not. Approximately 430 men in the Colony are concerned. So far some 270 have been medically examined and, roughly speaking, 130 of these have been declared fit. No cut and dried plan is followed in summoning men before the Tribunal, but naturally all the employers of one firm are taken together, and it is expected that those engaged at the Docks will be served until the last.

The firms dealt with yesterday were The Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, Lane, Crawford & Co., the Mercantile Bank of India, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., and Mr. G. F. Turner, of the Y.M.C.A. The results were:

CHARTERED BANK.
L. H. Lovely, no exemption.
N. J. Austin, exempt.
J. R. Irvine, exemption for two months.
W. J. Morrison, exempt.
The following men of military age employed by the Chartered Bank have been rejected as unfit:—C. F. Maltby, J. Gibb, H. Matheson.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.
R. L. Bridger, exempt on the condition of entering Government Service as a Revenue Officer in order that a young, unmarried man might be freed.
The following men of military age in the service of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. have been rejected as unfit:—A. N. Booles, A. E. Crapnell, F. M. Crawford, E. J. Ainslie, G. W. Avenell.

MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA.
C. Champkin, exempt.
R. Kennedy, exemption for three months.
E. L. Sim, of the Mercantile Bank, has been rejected as unfit.

Y.M.C.A.
G. F. Turner, exemption refused.
KELLY & WALSH, LTD.
J. H. Mead, exempt.
V. C. Labrum, one month's exemption.
No men of military age in the service of Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., have been rejected as unfit.

Mr. Downing, on behalf of the Chartered Bank, and Mr. Turner gave notice of appeal.

There was a full Tribunal. The Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., O.B.E., presided, the other members being the Hon. Mr. David Landale, Comdr. C. W. M. Beckwith, R.N., Lieut. Col. W. H. Pasby, C.R.A., and Messrs. W. Adamson, T. F. Hough, A. O. Lang, and G. M. Young.

Major H. A. Morgan, 18th Infantry, Indian Army, appeared as the Military Authority, and Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher acted as clerk to the Tribunal.

THE CHARTERED BANK.

The cases of the employees of the Chartered Bank were first considered. Four men were concerned:—L. H. Lovely, N. J. Austin, J. R. Irvine and W. J. Morrison—and the manager of the Bank, Mr. T. C. Downing, applied for exemption for all of them. Mr. Lovely strongly resisted the application.

The CHAIRMAN, after announcing that the Tribunal had carefully considered all the points put before them in writing, said the question was whether any of the four gentlemen present could be spared, and, if so, which. The Tribunal understood that no reduction in the European staff of the Bank had been made in the period since the outbreak of war.

Mr. DOWNING—The European staff was increased by two since the outbreak of war and now it is back to pre-war conditions.

The CHAIRMAN—At the outbreak of war you had nine. At some point of time after the outbreak of war the number was increased to 11. Now you have 9?

Mr. DOWNING—Yes.

The CHAIRMAN—Have any men gone to the Front from this office?

Mr. DOWNING—No.

The CHAIRMAN—You have three men certified as medically unfit?

Mr. DOWNING—I think so.

The CHAIRMAN—You say in your papers that you have six other accountants?

Mr. DOWNING—Yes.

The CHAIRMAN—That is the same number as before the war. We take it that you are of the opinion that none can be spared?

Mr. DOWNING—None can be spared. The CHAIRMAN—You know that some members of your staff have put it to us that they are of the opinion that some two, or certainly one—could be spared. It is put to us that by a re-arrangement of the work on the office they could easily be spared.

Mr. DOWNING—That may be so, but if we can spare men, those men will be wanted elsewhere. Moreover, the statement to which you refer makes no allowance for any sickness on the staff.

The CHAIRMAN—You do not agree that any one could be spared and leave a margin of safety?

Mr. DOWNING—I do not agree at all.

In answer to questions dealing with the possibility of finding efficient substitutes, Mr. Downing replied that the decision in such a case would rest with London. It would depend upon the man offered.

The CHAIRMAN—We understand that three junior officers, discharged from the Army, recently arrived in Hongkong with the intention of taking up positions in your bank here.

Mr. DOWNING—They were appointed to Calcutta and Singapore. They left England to go to those branches.

The CHAIRMAN—Your Portuguese and Chinese staff has been increased during the war. If there was a further increase would not that help?

Mr. DOWNING—Not at all.

The CHAIRMAN—At present the staff does not have to work late, nor has it done so during the last year or two.

Mr. LOVELY—No. Continuing Mr. Lovely said the point had been raised regarding the pre-war staff, and he would like to point out that the staff of the Bank was complete, not only in Hongkong, but in Shanghai, Hankow, Yokohama, Tientsin and Peking.

Mr. YOUNG—Can you tell us the numbers of the pre-war staff?

Mr. LOVELY—In Hongkong nine before the war and nine now; Shanghai nine in both cases; Tientsin four in both cases; Hankow, two before the war and three now; Yokohama, six in both cases; Peking, one before the war and two now.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Lovely)—Is there anything more you want to add to the statement you have already made?

Mr. LOVELY—If you cannot consider my case as being a member of the Chartered Bank, will you consider it as having resigned from the Bank?

The CHAIRMAN—You have drawn our attention to that.

Mr. DOWNING asked permission to read a telegram he had received from London, and upon the Chairman remarking that the Tribunal had it before them, Mr. Downing desired that it might be read in the presence of the Press representatives. The telegram stated that the Eastern staff of the Bank had been reduced since August, 1914, by 45 men, of whom five had died, 12 had resigned, 2 had been invalided to Australia and 26 had joined the Army. Six new men had been appointed to the Foreign staff since August, 1914, of whom five were discharged soldiers. The six new men who had been appointed compared with the average number of 60 which it had been usual to appoint during similar periods.

Mr. ADAMSON—Is there any special reason for the increase in the staff at Hankow and Peking?

Mr. DOWNING—The normal staff at Hankow is three. It was two only temporarily. When there was one man only in Peking, the Bank had no branch there. Now the Bank had its own office, and two men were necessary. Continuing, Mr. Downing said it would be interesting if Mr. Lovely would give the Tribunal the offices which were short of men. India was short and Kobe was short.

Mr. LOVELY—Kobe is a place where the senior officers have put their shoulders to the wheel.

Mr. LANG—With the closing down of the tea business in Foochow, is the agency in Foochow necessary?

Mr. DOWNING—That is a point. You will see from my telegram that there is a possibility of closing a branch. I cannot particularise any branch. In answer to a further question Mr. Downing said the offices in Canton and Foochow were the only ones under the direction of Hongkong.

In conclusion, Major Morgan submitted that two of the four men should be spared, and all then left the Council Chamber whilst the members of the Tribunal considered their decision.

When the Tribunal was opened to the public again, the Chairman announced that it had been decided that two men could be spared. Mr. Lovely could go as soon as anyone went. If it could be a convenience to the Bank that the second man—Mr. Irvine—should be given temporary exemption the Tribunal was will-

ing that temporary exemption should be granted for two months. If the necessity arose Mr. Downing had the power under the Ordinance to come before the Tribunal and ask that such exemption might be extended. Mr. Irvine would be temporarily exempted for two months. Mr. Lovely would go at once.

Mr. DOWNING—I can appeal against this?

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly.

LANE, CRAWFORD & COMPANY.

Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Company, represented by Mr. Looker, asked for exemption for Mr. R. L. Bridger.

Mr. SHARP—The Tribunal has read very carefully all that you have written, Mr. Looker. We understand that Mr. Bridger is the only man passed who is medically fit and that Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. have a European staff of nine. There are five, I believe, unfit. Mr. Duncan Clark has recently left the Colony for Home. He has gone permanently. Mr. Skelton has recently left under a medical certificate. Mr. Bootes within the last few days has left the firm to take up employment elsewhere. Mr. Avenell has lately joined the firm from Government service, and Mr. Scriven, who left for military service at the time of the military commission last year, has returned unfit.

Mr. LOOKER—Mr. Duncan Clark was medically unfit to stop here any longer. Mr. Bootes took Mr. Scriven's place when Mr. Scriven went Home.

Mr. CHAPPELL—Mr. Bootes would not stay. He did not like Hongkong and simply would not stay.

The CHAIRMAN—The Government is willing to take Mr. Bridger into its service as a Revenue Officer and to set free a young, unmarried man. This would not necessitate Mr. Bridger leaving Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. altogether, and would enable him to look after certain of the firm's interests. Is that a position which the firm would accept?

Mr. LOOKER—Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. say that if the Tribunal is of the opinion that Mr. Bridger's present functions are of essential local interest, then it is very desirable that he should remain in their employ wholly. He is an expert. If the Tribunal is only prepared to grant exemption on the ground that he has to combine his present duties with the duties of the Import and Export Department of the firm, of course, can say nothing.

The CHAIRMAN—That would free a young man.

Mr. LOOKER—The firm appreciates that, but if the Tribunal considers he is important he should be continued wholly in the employ of the firm. The alternative suggested to exemption is that Mr. Bridger should be employed from 8 o'clock in the morning until 8 o'clock in the evening, including Saturdays and Sundays, and some of the duties in the Import Department extend throughout the night. It is hardly fair to impose that task on someone who is essential in another branch—especially in the summer.

The CHAIRMAN—We don't understand that the hours involved are anything like those you put to us.

Mr. LOOKER—I am referring to the combination of duties.

Mr. BRIDGER said he had nothing to say on his own account.

Major Morgan submitted that exemption should only be granted on the understanding that Mr. Bridger took on the job of Revenue Officer.

Mr. LOOKER—If the Tribunal decides to grant exemption on the ground of these double duties, and the Tribunal thinks Mr. Bridger's present duties are important, the firm would very much value an expression from the Tribunal that Mr. Bridger should be enabled as far as possible to carry out his present duties in addition to his import and export duties.

The CHAIRMAN—You would not ask the Tribunal to express any view on that subject which would hamper the Government?

Mr. LOOKER—We don't want the Tribunal to do anything to hamper the Government, but we want it to give an expression of opinion as far as it can properly do so in order that the Government may not say hereafter that Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.'s duties are not important and therefore need not be attended to.

The CHAIRMAN—You understand, Mr. Looker, that the Government in employing Mr. Bridger, if that should be the outcome, employs him as the Government employs any officer, with a right to the whole of his time necessary for the work. There must be no qualification in that.

The Tribunal considered its decision in private and subsequently the Chairman announced that while the members accepted the view put forward by Mr. Looker that the work Mr. Bridger is doing for Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. is of importance to the Colony, they were of the opinion that it was not possible to exempt him on that ground. The Tribunal was only prepared to exempt him under sub-section 4 of Section 4 of the Ordinance if he will consent now to do the Revenue Officer's work that is being offered to him.

Mr. LOOKER—I understand the Tribunal takes the view that Mr. Bridger's present duties are of importance to the Colony?

The CHAIRMAN—That they are important but not sufficiently important to warrant exemption.

Mr. LOOKER—He accepts that. That will appear on the minutes of Tribunal.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes. The Tribunal takes the view that his work is of importance to the Colony. The terms of the arrangement with respect to the other work to be undertaken must be between Mr. Bridger and the Government.

Mr. LOOKER—Quite so. Is there any date from which this is to operate?

The CHAIRMAN—I understand that the matter can be arranged as I see no reason for a date. If Mr. Bridger asked for a fortnight it might be fixed up.

Mr. LOOKER—Mr. Bridger says it does not matter.

MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA.
C. Champkin, the manager of the Bank, applied for exemption on his own behalf and on behalf of R. Kennedy.

The CHAIRMAN, addressing Mr. Champkin, said all the papers had been carefully considered and the Tribunal did not want to trouble him to say anything about the importance of the Bank in Hongkong or anything more with regard to the case of his own exemption. The Tribunal was of the opinion that he should be exempted as manager of the Bank. The members, however, would like such opinion as he might give them to enable them to come to a decision regarding Mr. Kennedy, who was 29 years of age, unmarried and had no dependants of any kind. The Bank had the same European staff—not a large staff, of course—as at the outbreak of war. No men had gone from the office in Hongkong to the Front. How long ago was it that the Hongkong office began to have a staff of three instead of two?

Mr. CHAMPKIN—Many years ago.

The CHAIRMAN—You put to the Tribunal the view that Mr. Kennedy cannot be spared?

Mr. CHAMPKIN—I hold that view.

The CHAIRMAN—Supposing an unfit man, or a man over military age, could be found who was competent and willing to take Mr. Kennedy's place, I take it you would be ready to let him go?

Mr. CHAMPKIN—I cannot take the responsibility of acquiescing in the principle of bringing in for temporary employment a man who would have to assume great responsibility in the bank and who, at the same time, would have no obligation to the bank. It is a matter which I should like to refer to the head office.

Neither Mr. Kennedy nor Major Morgan, when questioned, had anything to say.

The CHAIRMAN—What other offices has the Mercantile Bank in the Far East?

Mr. CHAMPKIN—Only in Shanghai. The European staff there is three, but one assistant has been found unfit and is waiting to go Home.

The Tribunal deliberated in private and the Chairman announced that, as he had intimated before, Mr. Champkin would be exempt. With regard to Mr. Kennedy, he would be temporarily exempted for three months to enable the bank to take what steps it could—and which he hoped would be effective—to replace him. If the bank, after taking such steps, were unable to come to a suitable arrangement, it was in its growing request the Tribunal to extend the exemption.

Mr. CHAMPKIN—Thank you, we will do all we can.

Mr. CHAMPKIN—The Tribunal knows it, Mr. Champkin.

MR. TURNER.

Mr. G. F. Turner, Y.M.C.A., applied for exemption on his own behalf.

The CHAIRMAN—We see you describe yourself as of Canadian nationality and that you are 30 years old and have a wife and child. You raise three objections to exemption. The first objection, certificate is not one of fitness.

Mr. TURNER—That is so. It was issued on May 27th, when I put in for leave from the Hongkong Defence Corps.

The CHAIRMAN—The Ordinance was not passed until June 14th, and a certificate has been issued and we have here a statement from the Captain Superintendent of Police to the effect that the certificate states that you are fit without any qualification at all. This is the only certificate of Police informs us, that has been issued under the Military Service Ordinance. It is of no use taking old certificates. Many people were unfit a few years ago who, fortunately, are fit to-day.

Mr. TURNER—This is only 19 days ago. The CHAIRMAN—You have another and that says you are fit. Your second objection is that for the time being you are not ordinarily resident in the Colony within the meaning of the Ordinance. You were born and lived in England for 25 years, and you have lived in Hongkong or the Far East for eight years.

Mr. TURNER—I came for special work for a limited time. My work is now finished and I should have left, only there was no boat.

The CHAIRMAN—You have been here eight years?

Mr. TURNER—Two years in Hongkong. The CHAIRMAN—You are under the American Association. Did you come to the East under that Association?

Mr. TURNER—No, sir. The first time I came for the Y.M.C.A. in Korea.

The CHAIRMAN—You have taken a house here, I suppose?

Mr. TURNER—Yes, sir, but I am now living in a hotel.

The CHAIRMAN—Your third point is that you ask the Tribunal to exempt you for the purposes of your going to Canada and possibly being enrolled there.

Mr. TURNER—Yes.

The CHAIRMAN—We have only power to grant exemption where it can be shown that it is in Imperial interests or the essential interests of the Colony to do so. How do you put it to us that it would serve Imperial interests or the essential interests of the Colony that you should not be enrolled in Hongkong but that you should go to Canada and be enrolled there?

Mr. TURNER—I did not formally claim exemption from service under this Ordinance, because it seemed to me that my conditional medical certificate did not require that I should do so. I claim that I am not medically fit. With the consent of this Tribunal, however, I am prepared to engage in work of Imperial interest in which I have been habitually engaged for the past eight years, namely, work of the Y.M.C.A. Before I can do this I must obtain consent of the military authorities in Canada. I have had correspondence with one of the Territorial Secretaries of the Canadian

Y.M.C.A. since October last year about returning for that work and repeated enquiries since asking when I should be free to do so. I am not controlled locally and my salary is paid from the U.S.A. I ask that I may be permitted to leave this Colony on or about July 17th, that I proceed to Canada, and, that on arrival in Canada I submit myself to the authorities there and abide by their decision whether I shall serve in the ranks there or in the Canadian Y.M.C.A. war service.

The CHAIRMAN—You put it to us that the Imperial interests are served better by your carrying on the Y.M.C.A. work than by joining the Hongkong Forces and fighting at the front.

Mr. TURNER—I am prepared to go into the ranks if the Canadian authorities decide I should do so. If they decide that I should go to France I am prepared to go.

The CHAIRMAN—Upon what grounds are the Imperial interests served?

Mr. TURNER—I have been in the Association for eight years and I know their work, and I would rather serve in that way.

The CHAIRMAN—You mean Y.M.C.A. work and not fighting?

Mr. TURNER—I would rather do Y.M.C.A. work, but if the authorities decide otherwise I am ready. I may say that before going into Y.M.C.A. work a man must be exempt by a Tribunal.

The CHAIRMAN—That means they only want unfit men and you are a fit man. Major MORGAN asked that exemption should not be granted, and, after the Tribunal had considered the matter in private, the Chairman announced that exemption would not be allowed.

Mr. TURNER—I suppose I can appeal?

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly.

MESSRS. KELLY & WALSH, LTD.

Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., represented by Mr. Lewis, applied for exemption on behalf of J. H. Mead and V. C. Labrum.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Mead is 38 years old, has a wife and one child and other dependents. Mr. Labrum is 31 and unmarried. I understand, Mr. Lewis, that no man have gone from the Hongkong office to the front.

Mr. Lewis—One left in order to relieve a man in Shanghai to go to the front, and in 1915 another man went to Shanghai to take the place of a man who died.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Mead is the only European in the shop now. The only man in the printing office, and it is put to us by the firm in the request for exemption that if exemption is not granted to Mr. Labrum the printing works would have to be closed and the employees thrown out of employment. I think I am right in saying that the Tribunal read that with some surprise, for so far as we know printing work is carried on very successfully in Hongkong without English managers.

Mr. Lewis—The question is whether anyone can be employed at the present time to take Mr. Labrum's place. Mr. Labrum applied to Messrs. Kelly & Walsh to cancel his contract to enable him to join up. After consulting the directors at Shanghai it was decided that he could not be spared. No man could be obtained to take his place.

The CHAIRMAN—If he fell sick or went for a holiday how would the works be run? You do not put it to us that Imperial interests or the essential interests of the Colony would be injured?

Mr. Lewis—In so far as maintaining British trade is concerned.

The CHAIRMAN—We can understand that it will mean an inconvenience to the firm? Mr. Lewis—It means the closing down of the works. We cannot get another manager.

The CHAIRMAN—Another English manager?

Mr. Lewis—The Indian foreman could not carry on permanently. Results have shown that.

Mr. Labrum had nothing to say.

Major MORGAN applied for non-exemption in both cases.

After the Tribunal had consulted, the Chairman announced that Mr. Mead would be exempt and that Mr. Labrum would not be exempt.

Mr. Lewis—Would the Tribunal grant exemption to Mr. Labrum for a certain time in order that he might finish certain work upon which he was engaged? Two months was asked for.

One month's exemption was granted, and it was pointed out that if necessary the firm could apply to have it extended.

UNFIT MEN REQUIRED AS SUBSTITUTES.

The CHAIRMAN—There is just one point I would like to mention. One of the Tribunal's powers under the Ordinance is to exempt men who are engaged in non-essential work who could be and are willing to be transferred to essential work. This power is one which makes it possible to substitute married men for young unmarried men who could not otherwise be spared, but who would presumably make more efficient soldiers. The Tribunal's power in this respect under the Ordinance is restricted to fit men of military age, and it has, therefore, been suggested in order to enlarge the scope of this substitution that unfit or over-age men should be asked to volunteer for the purpose of taking the places of young and fit men who could not otherwise be spared. In this way some might be liberated who should go, if possible, and who were indeed anxious to go. There were no doubt unfit men who could be spared from their present work without injury to Imperial interests or the essential interests of the Colony. In fact the Tribunal already knew of one or two instances. Therefore, the Tribunal would be very glad to receive the names of any unfit or over-age men who were ready to help in this way. The Tribunal would try to arrange the substitution or, of course, the men might be able to arrange substitutes themselves.

The Tribunal then adjourned until Friday, at 3.30.

COMPANY MEETING.

HONGKONG STEEL FOUNDRY CO., LTD.

The eighth ordinary general meeting of the Hongkong Steel Foundry Co., Ltd., was held yesterday morning at the office of the Company, St. George's Building, Mr. A. G. Gordon (General Manager) presided over an attendance which included:—Messrs. E. J. Chapman, R. Rodger, M. S. Northcote, A. Kenting, D. Wilkinson, M. W. Mark, P. Tester, W. Logan, P. G. Potts, E. E. Ellis, E. M. Raymond, A. J. Henderson, and Yuen Cheong (shareholders) and J. F. Fisher (Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said:—The balance sheet of profit and loss account, allowing for depreciation on Company's plant, machinery, launches, and stock-in-trade, and including the amount carried forward from last year, is \$55,801.16. Your general managers propose to deal with this amount as follows:—

To pay a dividend of 81 per share \$ 7,808.00

To pay a bonus of \$1 per share 7,808.00

To write off patent process rights 21,829.36

To pay a bonus to staff 1,899.00

To pay to reserve fund 10,000.00

To carry forward to credit of next year's account 7,135.00

\$55,801.16

This appropriation, we hope, meets with your approval.

When last I addressed you I mentioned that further additions to our furnaces and other improvements were being undertaken. Considerable progress has been made with this development during the year. Two new sets of radio-furnaces have been installed, making in all ten double-sets in operation at present, and we intend laying down one or two sets of forced-draught patent furnaces at an early date, full working drawings for which are now on the way from England.

The works have been extremely busy during the year, and amongst the orders on hand the Company have been engaged on heavy castings for the standardized Government ships. We were rather doubtful as to whether we could accomplish the severe tests of material required by the Admiralty, and you will be pleased to know we have succeeded. We are indebted to the courtesy and assistance given by the management of the Taikeo and Kowloon Docks, which enabled us to accomplish these satisfactory results.

Ingot Steel.—We experimented on this class of work during the year with very satisfactory results, and if the foundry is at any time in lack of orders, the making of soft ingot steel will be a profitable source of revenue, so that future prospects are very encouraging.

Patent Process.—The \$21,829.36 mentioned in the auditors' report last year has now been written off. The Company has every reason to be congratulated on securing the rights of this asset, for had it not done so the foundry would have had to close down for want of supplies from home. Amongst other things it enables us to make our own flux for the fusion of scrap with other metals independently of outside resources.

Land and Buildings.—These have been purchased by the Company on very favourable terms, so we shall be enabled to extend our plant from time to time as the development of the casting department justifies, and until such time as the larger scheme is further advanced, when the whole will be combined as one concern. We have paid out of profits \$5,000 on taking over this property, and the small mortgage of \$5,000 standing as a liability in last year's accounts has also been paid off during the current year.

We propose to pay a bonus to the staff of 81 per cent. \$1,899.00, of which I am sure you will approve. It is to the efforts of our staff we owe the satisfactory results of the year's working, and especially to our works superintendent, who has given so much of his extra time in the Company's interest, and, in recommending this bonus, we feel sure we have the support of every shareholder.

The Outlook.—Our position is somewhat similar to that of last year, with the additional advantage that negotiations are in progress for the development of this concern. There are, unquestionably, large deposits of iron ore, coal, limestone, and wolfram available in the neighbouring provinces, and I have no doubt whatsoever that a concession can be arranged to give Hongkong a steady supply of these articles. I can give you no data as regards the quantity of coal or iron ore in sight, but I know, from written offers which have been made, that Chinese mine-owners are prepared to contract for the supply to this Company of all coal and iron ore required. I have not personally possessed the necessary time to enable me to inspect, with an expert, the various coal and iron fields from which it has been proposed to supply the articles, but I have strong reason to believe that these are situated at no great distance from Hongkong, and close to waterways.

Wolfram.—From official reports a new development of interests has resulted by the growing demand for this ore and the recent discovery that the mineral is to be found in marketable quantities in Kwangtung Province. It is said that the native mistook it for manganese ore, or iron ore, until a suspicion was raised by the high prices offered that it must contain something different from common metals. The Japanese first learned of the value of the "iron ore" in Hunan province, and offered about 27 cents Mexican, or 17 cents gold, a pound for it; other buyers learned of the bargain and offered better prices. At the end of 1917 the average ore commanded about \$50 Mexican, or \$32 gold, per hundred pounds. There seems to be considerable difference of opinion as to what effect this new supply from South China will have upon the market. One buyer expresses the opinion that, with a proper development of the South China fields, the available supply of tungsten in the world can be increased by at least 20 per cent, while shipments have so far been considerable. The actual development of the fields as indicated has not yet commenced.

Capital.—Our appeal locally for increased capital to meet the demand for extension of plant did not meet with sufficient encouragement, and the amount necessary to enable us to go to all-out was not subscribed. The general managers, though naturally disappointed, were by no means depressed by the fact. The appeal we made has evidently reached

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

THE EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORY OF CHINA.

The fifth annual issue of the "Educational Directory and Year Book of China" has just been published, and fully maintains its established reputation as a most useful reference book for all interested in the Western education of the Chinese. The Editor, in his preface, refers briefly to the disastrous effects of the civil war, with the looting of towns and the incidental result that schools in many districts had to be closed for weeks together. Naturally, those troubles made the collection of necessary information more difficult than usual, but nevertheless the work has been well done. There is a review of the outstanding events of the past twelve months, illustrating educational developments in all parts of the country, followed by a chapter on the Ministry of Education at Peking and by a series of special articles which should prove of considerable value to all members of the teaching profession. The second part of the volume comprises a list of the names of the teachers in the universities, colleges, and schools where English and other foreign languages are taught, with details of their experience, special qualifications, and so forth; while a third section is devoted to the educational establishments themselves. As will be seen, therefore, the Directory is not a mere list of names. It is a work of very considerable merit, in the compilation of which much labour has been expended. It was compiled to meet an obvious need, and its steadily growing popularity shows that it is meeting the requirements. The book may be obtained from all the leading booksellers.

RESTRICTION OF OUTPUT OF JAPANESE SPINNING MILLS.

The spinning companies of Japan are bound by an agreement to restrict operations at the mills by 10 per cent. from the beginning of the year to June. A proposal has recently been made to continue the agreement to the end of the year, the avowed reason being the necessity of conserving the stocks of raw cotton in view of the difficulty of getting imports. At present the total number of spindles in Japan is about 3,000,000, of which 1,200,000 belong to the companies to be excluded from the agreement for the restriction of operations.

the outside world, for numerous offers of capital and other proposals, have been made which will doubtless lead to beneficial results, not only for the Company but also for the Colony. The one and only drawback to this encouraging outlook is the internal strife existing amongst Chinese officials, which retards any progress and calls for patience, but we can rest well satisfied that when the time comes we are prepared to start operations, and have no doubt that pressure (if not before, certainly after the war) will be brought to bear by one or the other of the countries interesting themselves in this matter.

In conclusion, perhaps I might mention that your general managers have been asked the feasibility of standardized concrete ships being built in this Colony, and how far our Company could assist in such an undertaking. In consequence, we have consulted with gentlemen of practical experience, whose opinions on such matters are the highest in the Colony and who have gone thoroughly into details of the subject. With the available material at present on hand it is considered by them to be feasible; in fact, it is contemplated to build one vessel of about 1,000 to 1,500 tons. This being done will put the Colony in line with the latest production in shipbuilding. Still, for want of regular guaranteed supplies of raw material no further advance can, it is considered, be made in this direction for the present. Such would not have been the case had our appeal of last year been responded too. The estimates were then laid before the meeting were for a plant to supply an output of 3,000 tons per month of manufactured material. After that offer we had a second one, which was to purchase an existing plant and transfer to Hongkong, with a guarantee to be in working order within 12 months after arrival. Now, gentlemen, had the Hongkong public responded and taken an interest in this necessary undertaking, this Colony to-day would have had its own ship, almost in full swing, producing nearly all the necessary material for building not only concrete but steel vessels as well.

I have nothing further to add that would be interesting to shareholders, and now beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. M. S. Northcote, in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—It cannot but be satisfactory to shareholders of all classes of persons always on the look-out for dividends—to see the healthy growth of our "eight-year-old" Company. I am sure you will agree that great praise is due to our general managers therefor. That under his care the volume of business is year by year steadily increasing is evidenced by the fact that, in addition to being able for the second year running to give us a dividend of 81 per cent, we are to receive, on this occasion, a bonus of a like amount, and, further, we note the handsome sum written off patent rights process and the commencement of a reserve fund, to which we may hope to see reasonable additions made from year to year. I am sure you will heartily agree with the appropriation of bonus to staff.

The labourer is at all times worthy of his hire, and the little recognition thereof stimulates increased effort. The prospects for the future, as the general manager has told us, are good, and the increased market quotation for the stocks would seem to indicate that the public generally is turning its attention to our undertaking.

The motion was then carried unanimously.

Mr. C. B. Brown was re-elected auditor, on the proposition of Mr. A. Kenting, seconded by Mr. A. J. Henderson.

The CHAIRMAN: That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants are now ready and may be had on application.

HONGKONG A.A.F. SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS.

The annual school swimming sports were held at the Victoria Recreation Club yesterday afternoon. Queen's College, St. Paul's College, St. Stephen's College, Diocesan Boys' School, Ying Wa College, Ellis Kadoorie School, and Saiyungpun School were represented, and the competition was very keen. The Championship was won by D. Laing, of Queen's College, who carried off the shield for his school. The "Ho Kwong" shield for the Junior Team Race was won by Ellis Kadoorie School, last year's holders. By kind permission of the officers the Band of the Middlesex Regiment rendered a selection of music throughout the proceedings. At the conclusion of the sports the prizes were kindly presented by Mr. E. Ralphs.

The following were the winners of the various events:—

JUNIOR EVENTS.

50 YARDS.—1, Sung Iu Tak, Ellis Kadoorie School; 2, Mok Shing Kan, Ellis Kadoorie School; 3, Shek Wing Kwan, Ellis Kadoorie School. Time, 35secs.

100 YARDS.—1, Shek Wing Kwan, Ellis Kadoorie School; 2, Sung Iu Tak, Ellis Kadoorie School; 3, So Ysi Keung, Ellis Kadoorie School. Time, 1min. 32.2secs.

High Dive.—1, C. MacKenzie, Diocesan Boys' School; 2, Mok Shing Kan, Ellis Kadoorie School; 3, Ip Fok Lun, Saiyungpun School.

TEAM RACE.—1, Ellis Kadoorie School; 2, Wantan School; 3, Saiyungpun School.

OPEN EVENTS.

50 YARDS.—1, Ho King Fan, Queen's College; 2, D. Laing, Queen's College; 3, Ip Shiu Oi, Queen's College. Time, 30.4secs.

100 YARDS ON BACK.—1, D. Laing, Queen's College; 2, Ko Yau Cheung, Queen's College; 3, Lam Ping In, Queen's College. Time, 1min. 45secs.

100 YARDS, BREAST STROKE.—1, D. Laing, Queen's College; 2, Ip Shiu Oi, Queen's College; 3, Lam Ping In, Queen's College. Time, 1min. 35secs.

High Dive.—1, Ho King Fan, Queen's College; 2, D. Laing, Queen's College; 3, Lam Ping In, Queen's College. Time, 3min. 30secs.

TEAM RACE.—1, Queen's College.

In addition to contributions from the schools, donations to the prize fund were given by the following gentlemen:—Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Hon. Mr. Ho Fook, and Messrs. J. M. Wong, H. W. Wong, Kam Ying, Wong Kum Fook and Chan Harr.

SPORT.

LAWN TENNIS.

JUNIOR LEAGUE.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE V. DOCKYARD.

This match was won by Queen's College by 51 games to 48. Scores:—Lo, Man-hin and D. Laing lost to Trenman and Son, 5-0; lost to Black and Jennings, 5-0; beat Wright and Hennessy, 8-5.

Choi Man-chun and Wei Lam-sang lost to Trenman and Son, 1-10; lost to Black and Jennings, 4-7; lost to Wright and Hennessy, 4-7.

Lo Man-ho and Runjahn beat Trenman and Son, 9-3; beat Black and Jennings, 9-3; beat Wright and Hennessy, 6-3.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

A CONSIDERATE MAN.

A Chinese was charged with being a vagabond.

It was stated that defendant was found sleeping in the street. When arrested and searched, a number of pawn-tickets were found on him.

A friend of defendant said the latter was a compositor in a Chinese printing office, and, returning home late at night, did not wish to wake up his family and therefore slept on the door-step of his house.

Mr. J. R. Wood cautioned defendant and discharged him.

EXTRA ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

Mr. G. H. McLean, Bannerman, manager of the Hongkong Electric Company, summoned the manager of the Sunlight Company, of 15 Pottinger Street, for installing extra electric lights on his premises.

Defendant was missing when the case was called. A *foxi*, however, appeared on behalf of his master, who, he said, had gone to Canton on urgent business.

Mr. Bannerman stated that when charged with the offence, the manager apologised and said he was sorry.

Mr. J. R. Wood set aside the summons, and said he would issue a warrant for defendant's arrest immediately he returned to the Colony.

STANDARD SHIPS.

NOVEL PLAN TO SPEED UP BUILDING OF THEM.

A new method of building standardised ships which promises to be much more speedy than the old as to be adopted in Scotland.

Under the chairmanship of Sir William Robertson, Lord Lieutenant of Fife, a company has been formed to start shipbuilding on a large scale on a site at Burntisland, on the Firth of Forth. Two experienced men, well-known in merchant shipbuilding circles, are directing the preparations, which are now well forward.

To obtain the utmost rapidity in output the Burntisland Shipbuilding Co., Ltd. have arranged with large steel works whereby the greater portion of the steel structure of the ships will be produced and finished up to the stage of actual erection in these works. Thus there will be a great saving of time and plant in the shipyard, which will be able to commence shipbuilding almost immediately.

The technical advisers connected with the scheme have designed a special type of vessel which will enable real standardisation to be applied to construction. Hitherto standard shipbuilding has been confined to assimilation of size and type. Under the proposed scheme all the parts are to be standardised.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED A NEW STOCK OF

LADIES' SUMMER DRESSES

ALL IN THE LATEST STYLES IN

WHITE AND COLOURED WASHING MATERIALS

AT SPECIAL PRICES

\$10.00 to \$30.00 EACH

These dresses having arrived late for the Season's Trade we have marked them at very Low Prices to ensure a clearance.

WE INVITE INSPECTION.

We have the agency for the celebrated Sherwin-Williams Paints & Varnishes. This means that we have a special high quality finish for every purpose or surface.

STOCKS CARRIED OF:—

S. W. P.

Prepared Paint.

FLAT-TONE.

For Interior Walls.

ENAMELS.

COPAL VARNISH.

Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.,

Hotel Mansions, Missions Building,

HONGKONG.

CANTON.

Wm. Powell Ltd. TELEPHONE 346



HAS THE BEST SELECTION OF GENTLEMEN'S HIGH-CLASS SUMMER UNDERWEAR.



FOR SALE.

A RARE COLLECTION OF 950 COINS

of Different Nations with a Portable

Cabinet and Valuable Numismatic Books

for \$500 only.

GRACA & CO.

No 10, WYNDHAM STREET.

WAI KEE.

FLAG & SAILMAKER.

No. 123, Des Voeux Road Central,

Top Floor,

HONGKONG.

Telephone No. 1839.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
HONGKONG AGENCY.

M. R. F. RADAMELLE will be in Charge of the above Company's Business at this port from To-day until further Notice.
J. TOUBET, Acting Agent.
Hongkong, 3rd July, 1918. [2203]

NOTICE.

THE BUSINESS OF OKURA & COMPANY, LIMITED, will be carried on under the newly registered style of THE OKURA TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED, on and after the 1st July, 1918.
THE OKURA TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED.
Hongkong, 3rd July, 1918. [2204]

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.
6% FIRST MORTGAGE DEBENTURES (KAILAN BONDS).

PAYMENT OF THE HALF-YEARLY INTEREST due on 1st July, 1918, will be made on presentation of Coupon No. 12 at any of the undermentioned Banks, viz.:

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, At Tientsin, Shanghai or Hongkong.
CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA, At Hongkong, Tientsin and Shanghai only.
RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK, At Hongkong only.
BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE, At Tientsin and Shanghai only.
YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, Ltd., At Tientsin and Shanghai only.
BANQUE BRIDGE POUR L'ETRANGER, At Tientsin and Shanghai only.

The Interest/Income Tax at 6% in the £ will be—
On £20 Bonds, £ 2 0 0
Per Coupon (Gross) 12 0 0
Less Tax at 6% in the £ 2 7 1/2
Net amount payable £ 4 4 1/2

On £100 Bonds, £ 20 0 0
Per Coupon (Gross) 36 0 0
Less Tax at 6% in the £ 18 0 0
Net amount payable £ 22 0 0

On £500 Bonds, £ 100 0 0
Per Coupon (Gross) 180 0 0
Less Tax at 6% in the £ 90 0 0
Net amount payable £ 190 0 0

Payment will be made in Tels at the Demand. Buying rate of exchange of the day the Coupon is presented.
By Order,
THE KAILAN MINING ADMINISTRATION,
W. S. NATHAN,
General Manager. [2201]

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned FRANK SMYTH and JOHN SOMERVILLE DOBIE, carrying on Business as Sharebrokers at No. 4, Des Vaux Road Central, Hongkong, under the style or Firm of "VERNON & SMYTH," has been dissolved by mutual consent, as from the 30th June, 1918.

Dated the 1st day of July, 1918.

F. SMYTH,
J. SOMERVILLE DOBIE. [2185]

NOTICE.

AS from the 1st day of July, 1918, I shall continue to carry on the Business of a Sharebroker at No. 4, Des Vaux Road Central, Hongkong, under the style of "VERNON & SMYTH."

Dated the 1st day of July, 1918.

F. SMYTH. [2186]

NOTICE.

AS from the 1st day of July, 1918, I have established myself in Business as a Share and General Broker under the Firm name of J. S. DOBIE & Co.

Dated the 1st day of July, 1918.

J. SOMERVILLE DOBIE. [2187]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 8th day of July, 1918, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of BROWN LAND at Happy Valley, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty's Lands, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Lot	Area in Acres	Boundary Description	Original Survey	Area in Acres	Value in £
1	1.00	On the East, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
2	1.00	On the West, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
3	1.00	On the North, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
4	1.00	On the South, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
5	1.00	On the East, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
6	1.00	On the West, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
7	1.00	On the North, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
8	1.00	On the South, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
9	1.00	On the East, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
10	1.00	On the West, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
11	1.00	On the North, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
12	1.00	On the South, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
13	1.00	On the East, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
14	1.00	On the West, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
15	1.00	On the North, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
16	1.00	On the South, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
17	1.00	On the East, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
18	1.00	On the West, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
19	1.00	On the North, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00
20	1.00	On the South, Boundary of Happy Valley	1.00	1.00	175,000.00

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

HOUSE at OBSERVATORY VILLAS, Kowloon.
Apply to—
ABERDEEN V. APCAR & CO.,
Des Vaux Road Central. [2108]

TO LET.

HOUSES on Shamoon, Canton.
No. 57, THE PRINCE, LUSTLEIGH.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. [28]

TO LET.

NO. 7, STEWART TERRACE, No. 53, THE PRINCE, 4 ROOMED FLAT, No. 55, THE PRINCE.
Apply to—
LINDSEY & DAVIS,
3rd Floor Alexandra Buildings. [2006]

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.
A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
"ABERTHOLWYN," No. 14, Peak Road, from 1st August.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings. 2000

TO LET.

FOR SALE.
ONE 7/8 HP HARLEY DAVIDSON MOTOR CYCLE and SIDE CAR.
Run about 1,000 miles.
Apply to—
Box No. 2171,
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [2171]

FOR SALE.

WE have always on hand large lots of WOLFRAM ORE for Sale. Buyers are cordially invited to apply to—
FOOK YUK, 77, Des Vaux Road West, Hongkong, or Fook Wo CHEUNG, Tobacco Firm, the Wai Lan Bridge, Canton, for particulars.
THE TUNG NAM MINING CO.,
Hongkong, 18th June, 1918. [2158]

FOR SALE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Asiatic desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.
Applicants will be required to produce Passports or Identification papers.
All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.
Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the P.O. and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

NOTICE.

DAIRY FARM NEWS
JUNKET!
Cannot be excelled with tinned or fresh stewed fruit.
COULOMMIER CHRESE!
COTTAGE CHRESE!
Nourishing and ideal food.
DEVONSHIRE OREAM!
Can always be had.
We supply Junket Tablet on application. 1223

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.
STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, BOMBAY, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS AND LONDON.
THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED FOR BRAZIL, AMERICAN, CONTINENTAL AND SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

THE Homeward Mail Steamer, carrying His Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this port as usual, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports. Passengers accommodation in the connecting vessel secured before departure from Hongkong.
Silk and Valuable Cargo for Italy, France and London (under arrangement) will be conveyed by this Steamer proceeding to Bombay and there transhipped to the connecting Steamer for Marseilles and London.

Parcels will be received at the Office until 2 P.M. the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required.
For further particulars, sailing dates, etc., apply to—
P. L. KNIGHT,
Acting Superintendent. 31

INTIMATION

WATSON'S

PULVOSNIDROSIS.

AN IDEAL DUSTING

POWDER.

Keeps the feet and armpits cool and sweet in the warmest weather and removes any unpleasant odour.

Cures sore and blistered toes.

In tins 50 cts. each.

PREPARED ONLY BY

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,
HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

TEL. 16

HONGKONG OFFICE: 104, DES VAUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 121, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press
HONGKONG, 4TH JULY, 1918

ECONOMIC EXPERIMENTS DUE TO THE WAR

Although Japan of all the belligerents has suffered least from the effects of the war in producing scarcity of provisions, and there is as yet no lack of food-stuffs in the country, the rise in prices has caused some anxiety to the Government, and has led it to make some experiments in economics the development of which will be watched with interest. The chief rise—that is, the rise which affects the largest part of the population—is that in the price of rice, and it is towards this staple that the Government has directed its attention. Two reasons are given officially for the rise in the price of rice—one, that there is increased consumption owing to the general increase in prosperity consequent on the war, which means that there is a shortage of supplies; and, the other, that an actual shortage in the food supplies of the world has prevented other food-stuffs being imported and consumed so largely as before the war. As regards the increase in consumption, it cannot be said that the Japanese are a rice-eating nation in the same sense when the English, for example, are a bread-eating nation. As a matter of fact, a large portion of the poorer classes of Japanese eat very little rice, which is more or less a luxury to them, reserved for cases of sickness or convalescence. This is more especially the case in the country districts. The great substitute is the more easily and less expensively grown cereal barley, which is boiled in the same way as rice. With this a little rice may be mixed to make it more palatable. It is, therefore, possible that with the enhanced prosperity of the country there has been an increase in the consumption of rice, many being able to afford it now who could not do so before. At the same time it has to be remembered that for a long time Japan has been unable to feed herself owing to the great growth in the population and the comparatively small part of the country which is suitable for rice cultivation. Another factor that has to be considered is the preference of the Japanese for home-grown rice. Foreign rice is considered as on a level with barley, the diet for those who cannot afford anything better. There is also the fact that a good deal of rice went out of the country before the Government prohibited its export. These factors have combined to raise the price of rice, and the very multiplicity of the factors has rendered the task of the Government to reduce the price much more difficult. One proposal was that the import duty on foreign rice should be abolished. This import duty, which is another factor keeping up the price of the native-grown article, was first levied to conciliate the agricultural interests, and, although it has been assailed many times as a piece of bad political economy, no Government has yet seen its way to abolish it. Even at this time, when its abolition would have been expected as the first step towards dealing with the problem of cheapening the food-supply, the Japanese Government has preferred to take a roundabout course. This consists in fixing the price of foreign rice and guaranteeing certain rice-brokers against all loss in the importation of certain specified quantities. This practically means that foreign rice has become a Government monopoly, that it can only be sold at a fixed price, and that the State is bearing the loss between the price at which the rice is bought and that at which it is sold. The economics of this procedure are doubtful; its practical utility remains to be seen. The loss to the Government is considerable—much more than the import duty—and is likely to increase, since the fact that the Japanese Government is in the market for foreign rice has already caused an advance in prices. The loss, of course, will eventually fall on the taxpayer, the poor will get rice at a much lower rate, and the specially-appointed Government agents for dealing in foreign rice will reap some profit. The scheme has hardly been established long enough yet to say whether it will effect its purpose, but, so far, no decrease in the price of native rice has taken place. There was a fall in the market when it became known that the Government was about to take action, but there has since been a rise, which gives every indication of carrying the market up to its former figure—that is to say, about 60 per cent. higher than it was a year ago.

Since the war started we have had many economic experiments, some, no doubt, necessitated by the abnormal conditions prevailing, others of less doubtful expediency. Almost all of them, however, seem designed to effect their purpose by taking the most indirect route. Thus the prohibition of imports was intended to prevent the importation of useless articles in order to save cargo-space for useful articles. The amount of work involved in deciding which articles were excluded and which were not, whether a prohibition of one article covered also some article resembling it, and so on, has been enormous and must have kept a large staff of clerks employed and occupied much valuable time. How much simpler it would have been if freight-rates had been laid down under which articles would be allowed to enter the country. In countries where no control is being exercised over the shipping, enormous freight-rates are being charged, and these charges have to be paid by the people of the countries to which the goods are exported. If the Allies were to declare that they would not take any goods that were not imported at their scale of freight-rates then they would be in a position to get the largest supplies of the things they really wanted at the lowest rate. The American Government has taken a step in this direction which will, no doubt, be followed ultimately by other Powers. The rise in the price of coffee has been so great in the States, and the cause of the rise has been so largely due to the high freight-rates from the producing countries, that the United States Government has issued an order prohibiting the importation of coffee shipped at a higher freight than the rate fixed by the Shipping Board. The object of the United States is to reduce—or, at any rate, prevent any further rise in—the price of coffee. The principle, however, admits of another application. If a broad classification of goods required and goods not required were made, the former might be secured by allowing their importation at a comparatively high rate of freight, while the latter might be excluded by only permitting their importation at a low rate. What the world requires in the present crisis is a direction of the energies of mankind into the production and manufacture of the necessities of life. This involves a certain amount of diversion of industries, which can only be accomplished by encouraging all concerned in the production of necessities and discouraging all concerned in the production of non-necessaries.

Major G. M. De Piro, R.G.A., who left Hongkong a few months ago for England, has been reported wounded.

Captain F. L. F. Roupell, R.G.A., M.C., who was a subaltern in the 88th Company, R.G.A., a few years ago, has recently been wounded.

Lieut.-Colonel O. C. S. Watson, D.S.O., commanding the Yorkshire Light Infantry, who recently met his death on the Western Front, fought in the China campaign of 1900.

Sergt. W. Waldon, R.G.A., who shortly before the war was a Smith Gunner in the 88th Company, R.G.A., has been awarded the Military Medal and the D.C.M. for conspicuous bravery in repairing guns while under heavy fire.

During the week ended June 29th the following cases of communicable diseases were notified in the Colony:—Cerebro-spinal fever, 26 (27 deaths); bubonic plague, 22 (19 deaths); enteric fever, 11 (11 deaths); diphtheria, 2 (2 deaths); puerperal fever, 1. For Sunday, Monday and Tuesday the figures were:—Cerebro-spinal fever, 12 (9 deaths); bubonic plague, 10 (9 deaths); enteric fever, 3 (3 deaths); diphtheria, 1 (1 death). All the sufferers were Chinese, except one, a Filipino.

Of Lieut.-Colonel S. R. Sebastian, M.C., *Truth* says:—"He was a Winchester boy, and after leaving school went up to University College, Oxford, where he took honours in the Law School, being afterwards called to the Bar. When war broke out he came home from Shanghai, where he was practising as a barrister, to join the Special Reserve Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment. He proved to be an admirable soldier, and was for two years adjutant of his battalion. After being twice mentioned in despatches and winning the Military Cross, he was promoted Lieut.-Colonel last August to command a battalion of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry."

SEAMAN'S STORMY NIGHT ASHORE

ALTERCATION WITH A RICSHA COOLIE AND A CONSTABLE.

At the Magistrate's, Hongkong, yesterday, John Cartwright, a seaman, was charged with refusing to pay the legal ricksha fare and with assaulting the coolie and a constable.

The ricksha coolie stated that defendant engaged a ricksha on Tuesday night in Ship Street, and ordered him to proceed to the King Edward Hotel bar. Complainant took defendant there, and, after a few minutes stay, defendant told him to take him to the Naval Yard. Complainant did so, and demanded his fare when defendant alighted. Defendant refused to pay him and assaulted him. An Indian constable intervened. Defendant then turned round and assaulted the constable. Defendant was also alleged to have stated that he was centless. The constable blew his whistle and a European Sergeant arrived and assisted in arresting defendant, who, however, continued to struggle and kick, and use offensive language.

The Indian constable corroborated the evidence given by the previous witness, but stated that defendant produced a dollar note, promising to pay complainant thirty cents. He received seventy cents from the coolie, but defendant did not hand over the note, putting it and the extra money he had received in his pocket.

Defendant denied that he had any money on him at the time. Inspector Sim affirmed that a dollar note was found on defendant when he was searched at the Police Station.

The Magistrate: You do not seem to have had a very good recollection of what took place.

Defendant said he could not give evidence on oath as he was rather confused as to what had happened. He remembered, however, that the Indian constable threw him on to the ground, treated him roughly, and ordered him, in offensive language, to pay the fare due.

Mr. Wolfe said the defendant was responsible for the acts he committed while under the influence of liquor. It seemed to him that defendant did not know what he was doing at the time.

Inspector Sim stated that defendant only left the Government Civil Hospital on Sunday evening, and it was possible that a drink or two had knocked him off his feet.

Defendant said he left his ship to go to Hospital and was out of employment at present.

Mr. Wolfe fined defendant \$7.40—forty cents compensation to complainant, and \$1 compensation to the Indian constable.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF SIR R. BREDON.

PEKING, July 2nd.
Sir Robert Bredon is in a very grave condition.

TSO KUN'S FORCES RECEIVE ARREARS OF PAY.

The Government has instructed the Ministry of Finance to pay arrears to the First Army troops amounting to more than one million dollars. Hence, Tso Kun starts inmediately for the south.

RAILWAY WASH-OUT.

There have been wash-outs on the Tientsin-Pukow and Lunghai Railways.

DEMAND FOR AN ARSENAL AT PENGPU.

Ni Shih-chung demands that an arsenal be established at Pengpu.

THE OPIUM DEAL.

Permits have been issued for the release of the opium at Shanghai bought from the combine by the Government.

[THROUGH REUTERS' AGENCY.]

MR. BALFOUR'S REMARKS ON THE OPIUM DEAL.

PEKING, July 1st.
There is much perturbation at Mr. Balfour's remarks, cabled on June 31st. It is considered that, instead of marking an end of the opium traffic, the deal referred to by Mr. Balfour reopens the whole of China both to cultivation and smoking, and destroys years of magnificent anti-opium work, in which China has effected the greatest social reform in history.

The Government intends to establish a vast Opium Gabelle, but hesitates to announce the scheme.

GERMANS CREATE PANIC AT PEKING.

LONDON, July 1st.
A Peking despatch, dated June 27th, states that, utilising the report of the defence measures for Paris, the Germans created a panic among Chinese banking circles at Peking on June 26th. The police allayed the excitement by announcing that Paris had not been taken and that the situation on the Western Front was not changed.

Two Germans were arrested at Harbin for travelling with forged Dutch passports. The Allied residents demand the incarceration of prominent German saboteurs, who have become most insolent since the postponement of the deportation of Germans from China.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WAR BONDS STILL!

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—Our local Post Office is still appealing to the addresses of correspondents, pamphlets and newspapers to buy War Bonds.

Can you inform us where these Bonds are to be obtained?

Perhaps my previous suggestions have taken effect, and the Postal authorities have been instructed to chop all letters and papers with the conspicuous square stamp "Buy War Bonds through the H.K. and S. China War Savings Assn., Hongkong."

Anyhow we hope the drawing of these Bonds may again be arranged, and the word "Tickets" added to a new "Chop"—Yours truly,
AN OPINION.
2nd July, 1918.

CITY HALL WORK PARTY.

ARTICLES PACKED DURING JUNE.

During the month of June the City Hall Work Party packed the following:—38 mosquito nets, 518 handkerchiefs, 88 pairs slippers, 14 pairs bed-boots, 112 milk covers, 10 head-bands, 33 many-tailed bandages, 22 stump-bandages, 10 reversible bed-jackets, 22 dressing-gowns, 195 suits pyjamas, 15 vests, 12 cotton shirts, 85 bed-jackets, 10 surgical suits, 96 shrouds, 37 pairs socks, 6 belt-mets, 187 vests, 153 shirts, 26 small pillows, 12 packs playing-cards, 26 scrubbers, 1 surgical cap, 2 night-shirts, 3 pairs bed-socks, 2 pairs knee-caps, 10 surgical shirts, 5 mufflers, and by kind contribution, 11 bed-jackets. There were packed in seven cases, three of which were sent to the Red Cross distributing centre at Bombay; two to the 15th General Hospital, Alexandria; and two to Mrs. A. E. Barton, Rawalpindi, India.

The Wool Department packed 324 pairs socks, 25 caps, 62 pairs of knee-caps, and 3 pairs of operation stockings.

The Mother's Union's contribution to June's packing consisted of 7 vests, 9 shirts, 8 pairs socks, 8 suits pyjamas, 2 bed-jackets, 12 milk covers, 12 handkerchiefs, 6 head-bands, 1 pair gloves, and 2 night-shirts.

The following extract is from a letter recently received from Miss Rutherford, Assistant Matron of the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, to whom will be forwarded a case of the articles asked for:—

"I wonder if you would let the ladies of the City Hall Work Party know that I would very much appreciate a box of articles for the Hospital here. The usual dressings will be most acceptable, with pyjama-suits, triangular bandages, and open-backed shirts added in addition."

THE WAR.

GERMANY'S FEROCIOUS SUBMARINE WARFARE.

BRITISH HOSPITAL-SHIP SUNK.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF TORPEDOING.

APPALLING CONDITION OF ARMENIANS.

ANGLO-FRENCH RECOGNITION OF CZECHO-SLOVAKS.

Branco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

GERMAN ATTACK REPULSED.

LONDON, July 2nd.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—An attack last night north-westward of Albert to recapture the ground taken the previous night was repulsed, except at one point, where the enemy obtained a footing in a trench. We repulsed attempted raids in the neighbourhood of Aveluy Wood, Avion and Hinges.

AERIAL OPERATIONS.

LONDON, July 1st.

We had a most successful day yesterday. We shot down 20 aeroplanes and drove down ten uncontrollable. A large number of reconnaissances were carried out which enabled our artillery to engage a greater number of hostile batteries than on any day during the past fortnight. We dropped 293 tons of bombs during the day and 17 tons during the night. Of the latter seven tons fell, with good effect, upon railway connections at Tournai. Two of our machines are missing.

EARLIER CABLES.

FIELD-MARSHAL HAIG'S CONGRATULATIONS.

LONDON, July 1st.

The Press Bureau announces:—Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig has congratulated Lieut-General Haking and all ranks in his command upon the success on June 28th, which reflected great credit upon all concerned. He also congratulated the Air Force upon the brilliant and all-important assistance rendered to the other arms throughout the recent operations.

A BOMBING WAR.

LONDON, July 1st.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, states:—During the past month the war has resolved itself into an affair of bombing. Every fine night the enemy planes are up, but their interference with our existence is only a fraction of what the enemy has to endure from ours. In Rhineland the sound of our engines never ceases, and in line weather blazing buildings nightly illuminate the countryside. Last night's affair north of Albert was one of many recent acquisitions of ground, which in future we will turn to account. This is the second local advance in the same salient, and we have now acquired a command of fire and observation, of which we stand in need.

VARIED WARFARE.

LONDON, July 1st.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We rushed a post at Aveluy Wood on Sunday. We raided, at night-time, trenches westward of Dernancourt. East County, Belgium, early at night, carried out a successful minor operation north-westward of Albert. They captured 34 prisoners and some machine-guns and improved our positions. A counter-attack was beaten off. Hostile artillery were active northward of Albert, south-eastward of Arras, eastward of Robecq, and in the neighbourhood of Merris and the Ypres-Comines Canal.

LATEST CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT.

NOTHING IMPORTANT.

PARIS, July 2nd.

A communiqué states:—There has been nothing important on the front. Twenty-one German aeroplanes were killed or disabled on June 30th. Six captive balloons were set on fire. Twenty-two tons of bombs were dropped on the night of June 30th on enemy aerodromes and stations.

EARLIER CABLES.

FRENCH MAINTAIN GAINS.

PARIS, July 1st.

A communiqué states:—We carried out several raids between Montdidier and Noyon, taking prisoner a German. We captured an enemy centre of resistance north of Catry, taking 28 prisoners. We improved our positions between Passy-en-Valois and Vinly, and advanced our line to east of the Cherzy-Vinly railway.

A German counter-attack upon our new positions south-east of Mosloy caused a lively fight, as a result of which we integrally maintained yesterday's gains. We captured about 200 prisoners in these actions.

CZECHO-SLOVAK LEGIONS.

LONDON, July 1st.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing yesterday afternoon, stated:—President Poincaré, to-day, presented National standards to the Czecho-Slovak Regiments formed in France from volunteers belonging to the Slav nationalities in Austria-Hungary, and regiments composed of kinsmen and co-nationals of Czecho-Slovak soldiers captured by the Russians, mostly by voluntary surrender, early in the war, who are now fighting in Russia, and of the Czecho-Slovak regiments in the Italian Army who fought most gallantly on the Piave. Many have been Austrian soldiers and others are Slav emigrants from America. They know they will receive no quarter if captured, and the knowledge makes them more resolved to fight. The Czecho-Slovaks wear the French uniform in France, with a distinctive national badge.

Aerial Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RAIDS ON PARIS.

PARIS, July 1st.

An official report states:—There was an alarm at 11.55 last evening. "All Clear" was signalled at 12.30 a.m. Five was opened on the approaching aeroplanes, which did not reach Paris. A second alarm was given at 12.45 a.m., and bombs were dropped on the outer suburbs. "All Clear" was signalled at 12.50 a.m.

PARIS, July 2nd.

Enemy aeroplanes attempted to attack Paris at 12.34 this morning. "All Clear" was signalled at 12.50. Nothing has been reported.

GERMAN TOWNS BOMBED.

LONDON, July 2nd.

The Air Ministry announces:—In addition to the attacks reported, on the night of June 29th we bombed the chemical works at Mannheim. A machine reported missing on June 30th has returned. On the night of June 30th we attacked an aerodrome at Boulay, railway works and stations at Elionville, Remilly, Landau, Zweibrücken, and Saarbrücken; also the works at Mannheim.

We bombed, with good effect, on Monday, railways and workshops at Karlsruhe, the station at Treves, and the railway triangle at Metzablon. We shot down a hostile machine. Two of ours are missing.

Italian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ITALIAN FRONT.

RECAPTURE OF ITALIAN POSITIONS.

LONDON, July 2nd.

An Italian semi-official report states:—With the recapture of Valsella, Col de Proso and Col de Chelo, we wrested from the Austrians the last of their moderate gains on the Asiago plateau on the first day of the offensive, and completely restored the situation prior to the great attack. These positions were constantly contested throughout the war, because they constitute an advanced flank for the Italians and a jumping-off ground for the Austrians wishing to scale the Italian positions. The victory was due to perfect co-operation of the artillery and infantry, thus reducing the Italian losses to a minimum, whereas the four enemy divisions engaged suffered exceptionally heavy losses.

EARLIER CABLES.

SITUATION QUIET.

LONDON, July 1st.

A British Italian official report states:—The situation is quiet. We carried out two raids, taking a few prisoners and inflicting many casualties. We destroyed six aeroplanes and drove down one out of control. One British machine did not return.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

HOSPITAL SHIP TORPEDOED.

"LANDOVERY CASTLE" SUNK IN TEN MINUTES.

LONDON, July 1st.

The Admiralty announces that the British hospital ship *Landoverly Castle* was torpedoed at 10.30 on the night of June 28th, 116 miles south-west of the Faeroes. The ship sank in ten minutes. The vessel was homeward bound from Canada, and there were, therefore, no sick or wounded on board. The crew consisted of 164, and the boat also carried 80 Canadian Army medical men and 14 female nurses. Of the total of 258, one boatful of 24 has been landed. There is a bare possibility of other survivors. It must be noted that in this, as in all other instances, the German submarine had a perfect right to stop and search the hospital ship under The Hague Convention. It preferred, however, to torpedo the *Landoverly Castle*. The ship showed all navigating and the regulation hospital lights.

LATEST CABLES.

BRITISH DESTROYER EARLY ON THE SCENE.

LONDON, July 2nd.

The Commander of the destroyer *Lyonsdale*, interviewed, stated that the survivors of the *Landoverly Castle*, when picked up, had been drifting for 36 hours. The Commander emphasised that it was another instance of sinking at night. Furthermore, it was unquestionably intended that the Hun policy to leave no trace should be carried out in its entirety. When last seen the submarine was apparently shelling some of the seven boats which were launched. One boat containing twelve sisters was seen to capsize, and the sisters were thrown out and pinned underneath the boat. A Canadian sergeant in this boat managed to scramble upon the keel. Nothing has been seen of the remaining five boats. The Commander believed they were not improbably destroyed by shell-fire. Anyhow, the submarine was observed changing the wreckage upon which the survivors were clinging, and in the locality where the lifeboats were believed to be drifting.

It is thought the submarine intended to sink the boat in which the survivors were huddled, owing to the way the submarine apparently tried to swamp it in backwash. As an instance of the ferocity of the submarine captain the *Lyonsdale* Commander said that the Canadian sergeant, when he struggled to keep on the upturned boat, was apparently lashed, badly bruised, yet when the boat drifted alongside the submarine, and the Canadian, evidently thinking it was a rescue ship, scrambled aboard, a submarine officer picked up the Canadian and flung him back into the sea. "We have since been cruising in the neighbourhood of the torpedoing, but not a single piece of wreckage has been seen."

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF DISASTER.

LONDON, July 1st.

The Press Bureau announces:—Germany's awful debt to the world continues to grow. Another hospital ship has been torpedoed, this time 170 miles from the nearest land. Here the people were turned adrift in boats to sink or swim, and though, as it happened, she was a Canadian hospital ship returning from Halifax with no wounded on board, the tale of the crime reveals wanton deliberation on the part of the submarine commander, almost suggesting that he hoped to find her full of injured and helpless men.

The *Landoverly Castle* was chartered by the Canadian Government to convey sick and wounded from England to Halifax and 90 members of the Medical Corps, which included seven officers. The *Landoverly Castle* was steaming at 14 knots, with the usual navigation and regulation hospital ship lights, and under an overcast sky she was plainly visible and could not be mistaken for anything but what she was, a ship immune by every law of war and peace from attack or molestation.

No one on board saw the wake of the torpedo. The first intimation of a submarine was the jar and roar of the explosion from aft, then the lights went out. Everything afterwards, except for the dim light from an emergency dynamo just before the ship foundered, occurred in darkness. The engines were immediately run to stop, then to full-speed astern, but from the engine-room there came no answer. The ship's radio, routine, however, held good, for with the Germans one must be prepared for every such emergency. Along the darkened decks the crew groped to their boat-stations and stood by for orders to leave. The Captain megaphoned from the bridge to hold on till the way was off the ship. The carpenter was aft examining the damage, and the Marconi operator was in his cabin vainly striving to transmit the ship's position, but the key did not gain a response. The spark had gone.

The carpenter reported that No. 4 hold aft was blown in and that she could not remain afloat. The order was given to lower the boats on both sides and abandon ship.

The officer commanding the Canadian Army Medical Corps has reported that all his people are out. This is important, inasmuch as only the Captain's boat has been picked up. Save for any of the ship's company or engine-room crew, who were killed by the torpedo explosion, it is clear that everyone got away. The Captain went to his cabin for an electric torch and returned to the deck, and he found that the accident boat, which was held back for those last to leave the ship, had gone. The second officer lowered a life-boat and those still aboard entered by a lifeline, which was a two-inch rope dangling alongside the 60 feet of the ship's side. They pushed off and got clear just in time to avoid being

sucked under as the *Landoverly Castle*'s stern went down, leaving her long bows erect. One boiler seemed to blow up as the water reached it. The funnel leaned aside as she slowly listed to starboard and tore loose and fell away, then stern first she slid under and disappeared. The ship sank not more than ten minutes from the time of the explosion of the torpedo. Huge quantities of wreckage were floating on a quiet sea, rafts and gratings on which hawyers had been coiled, and among them men were floundering and shouting. One was walking about on a grating. The Captain's boat picked up eleven from the wreckage, then proceeded towards a voice calling for help from the water in the dark. They heard simultaneously two others calling elsewhere. It was then that there appeared from the night, crawling through the floating debris the long black shape of a submarine with conning-tower opened, and figures were vaguely seen along the deck. The submarine hailed the boat in English. "Come alongside," it ordered. The boat was pulling to pick up a drowning man, and the second officer shouted, "We are picking up a man in the water. Come alongside," repeated the brusque voice from the submarine. The boat held on its way. Forthwith two revolver shots were fired at and over it. "Come alongside, or I will shoot with my big gun," shouted the commander, and the boat was pulled to the submarine. The Captain under orders went on board, and the Commander asked sharply, "What ship is that?" "It is the hospital ship *Landoverly Castle*," replied the Captain. The submarine commander did not appear to be surprised, but he said, "But you are carrying eight American flying officers." "We are not," replied the Captain. "We have seven Canadian Medical officers on board, and the ship was chartered by the Canadian Government to carry sick and wounded Canadians from England to Canada." Replying to the Commander's reiterated statement, "You have been carrying American flyers," the Captain said, "I have been running for six months to Canada with wounded, and I give you my word of honour that I only carried patients, medicals, sisters and a crew." The Commander then demanded if any Canadian Medical officers were in the boat, and ordered one aboard. The Captain asked, "Where are our other boats?" The Commander did not answer. He was watching the Canadian Medical officer, who was being roughly hauled on board and thrust along the deck. This was being done so violently and with such plain intention to injure that the Canadian Medical Major Lyon had a small bone in his foot broken. Another German officer in the conning-tower motioned over his shoulder with field-glasses in a northerly direction. Major Lyon was interrogated, and, after protesting his character as a Medical officer, he was ordered back to the boat. The Captain was also allowed to go, and the submarine began to circle round the wreckage, narrowly shaving the boat. She stopped again and asked the second and fourth officers and questioned them. This time the Commander invented a new excuse, and stated there was a big explosion aft as the vessel sank, therefore she must have been carrying munitions. The second officer explained that it was the explosion of a boiler and the falling funnel. They then were allowed to return to the boat, which made sail and proceeded. The submarine again circled, apparently stopped, and began firing at an unseen target. The firing of twelve shells at the unseen target may have been at the other boats, which if picked up can furnish evidence on this point. The Captain, meanwhile, realising the hopelessness of assistance from the north, as no wireless had been sent, decided to make for the Irish coast and send help to the others. After sailing and pulling for 70 miles the boat was picked up by the destroyer *Lyonsdale*, which wirelessly for a search for the other survivors, and took the occupants of the captain's boat to Queenstown.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NATIONAL CZECH COUNCIL.

PARIS, July 1st.

M. Pichon has despatched a letter to the Secretary of the National Czech Council, stating: "Faithful to the principles of respect for nationalities and the liberation of oppressed peoples, the French Government considers that the claims of the Czecho-Slovak nations are well-founded, and that France will apply itself when the time comes to uphold their aspirations for independence, so that their provinces will be liberated at length from the yoke of the Austro-Hungarian oppressor."

M. Pichon declares that the French Government recognises the Czecho-Slovak National Council as the first step towards the future Czecho-Slovak Government.

M. Pichon, speaking in the name of the French Republic, concludes by hoping that the Czecho-Slovak State will speedily become, through the common efforts of all the Allies and in close union with Poland and the Yugo-Slav State, an insurmountable barrier to Teutonic aggression, and also a factor for peace in a reconstituted Europe.

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BRITISH GOVERNMENT AGREES WITH SENTIMENTS.

AMSTERDAM, July 1st.

M. Pichon despatched a letter to Mr. Balfour in terms similar to his communication to the Secretary of the National Czech Council and Mr. Balfour replied fully associating His Majesty's Government with the sentiments of the French Government. He emphasised that the participation in the fighting ranks of the Czecho-Slovak had a far-reaching political significance, as it represented a stage in the great struggle for the freedom and security of small nations, in whose cause all the Allies were deeply concerned.

DISASTROUS EFFECTS OF PRINCE ARTHUR IN JAPAN. AGRICULTURAL COMB-OUT.

LONDON, July 2nd.

In the House of Commons, Mr. W. F. Roch moved the adjournment in order to draw attention to the serious effect of combining-out, agricultural labourers engaged on the harvest. He said he had been inundated with letters from farmers bewailing the probable disastrous effects of the Government's action and threatening to turn their cattle into the harvest fields unless they got the labour.

Mr. Roch said the Agricultural Executive Committees were not willing parties to calling up 30,000 labourers, for which Sir Auckland Geddes was solely responsible.

Mr. Prothero sympathized with the complaint, but he emphasised the overmastering need of men for the Army. Man-power was short all round, but the essential industries must yield a proportion of man-power for the Army. Men taken now will be in the fighting line at the end of September, which possibly might be a critical moment. The Government recognised the need for men over-powered every consideration, even food.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

CONTROL OF TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

WASHINGTON, July 2nd.

A resolution has been introduced in the House of Representatives authorizing Government control of telegraphs and telephones. It is understood that this action is taken to prevent a threatened strike of employees on one of the great telegraph systems.

TURKEY ASKED TO EXPLAIN.

The United States has formally requested from Turkey an explanation of the report that Turkish troops sacked an American hospital at Tabriz and seized the Consulate there.

VOTE FOR MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT.

The Appropriations Committee favourably reported on the House of Representatives' new urgent Deficiency Bill carrying \$27 million dollars additional for the military establishment.

WAR PRISONERS' EXCHANGE.

THE PROBLEMS TO BE DECIDED.

LONDON, July 2nd.

The *Daily Chronicle's* Correspondent at The Hague states that one reason for the return of the German war-prisoners Delegates to Berlin was to consult the Government regarding the deportation of Germans from China. It appears that Baron Kuehnemann's statement in the Reichstag that the matter was satisfactorily settled is incorrect. The question is part of the problems which the Conference has to settle, as the whole of the Germans are apparently determined to have a comprehensive agreement or none at all. They are particularly anxious to secure the return of all colonial prisoners.

LABOUR MINISTERS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

LONDON, July 2nd.

The eight Labour Ministers further met yesterday. It is understood that they decided it was not necessary to take action consequent upon the Labour Conference's resolution terminating the party truce.

APPALLING STATE OF AFFAIRS IN ARMENIA.

APPEAL TO BRITISH LABOUR CONFERENCE.

LONDON, July 1st.

Reuter's Agency learns that a pathetic appeal on behalf of the Armenians is being made to the British Labour Conference. The appeal reveals an appalling state of affairs, and says, "None of the various war zones compare with the tragic lot of the Armenians. It is pointed out that the Turks since the beginning of the war have committed unprecedented atrocities in Turkish Armenia, where they have massacred about a million persons, while two million Armenians in Russian Armenia are now threatened with a similar fate. Democracy is asked to assist and save this small and ancient people from complete extermination."

EARLIER CABLES.

SENSATIONAL CONSPIRACY TRIAL.

LONDON, July 1st.

Sir Joseph Jones (formerly Lord Mayor of Sheffield) and Charles Alfred Vernon, as well as the latter's father, named Carl, have been committed for trial on a charge of communicating information to the enemy. They pleaded not guilty.

Sir Joseph Jones' counsel said the defence was that the information complained of was given in the course of business and was in no wise intentionally anti-British.

NEW PEER.

LONDON, July 1st.

Sir Arthur Lee, M.P., who in October last presented the estate known as Chaucer Court, as an official country residence for future Prime Ministers of England, has been elevated to the Peerage.

ROUMANIA'S PEACE.

AMSTERDAM, July 1st.

At Bukharest, in the Chamber, M. Arion, Foreign Minister, declared that the hour of justice had struck, and the country demanded from Parliament the fixing of responsibilities. Past mistakes must be atoned for and the crimes punished. The Government must also carry out great financial reforms, as the war burdens exceeded £200,000,000. He added that he had always opposed war, and had concluded peace to save what was saveable, thanks to the credit he enjoyed with those whom he negotiated.

LONDON, July 1st.

The *Times's* Correspondent at Tokio states that H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught, interviewed on the impressions he has derived from his visit, said the people of all classes realised the value of the Alliance and felt that it guaranteed peace in the Far East, and he said that everything should be done to strengthen this relationship. He had taken every opportunity of expressing appreciation of the Japanese Navy's work in the Mediterranean, which had received scant attention in the newspapers, also its services in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, which were kept open to the world's trade by the Japanese vigilance. We on our part were fully conscious that Japan has behaved loyally throughout the war, and that she is ready, if necessary, to employ her military as she now employs her naval forces. Referring to the large gathering of British Indians at the Embassy, Prince Arthur spoke of the loyalty of India, and said that the Indian community in Japan would further show their loyalty shortly by presenting an address.

IMPERIAL WAR CONFERENCE.

POST-WAR ECONOMIC POLICY.

LONDON, July 1st.

The fourth, fifth, and sixth meetings of the Imperial War Conference, were held on June 24th, 26th and 28th. They were almost exclusively devoted to the continuance of the discussions of various phases of the post-war economic policy. The Conference passed a resolution endorsing the principle of the United Kingdom Non-Ferrous Metal Act in pursuance of the policy of freeing the Empire from dependence on German-controlled organisations in respect of non-ferrous metals and ores, and recommended the Governments of the Empire to adopt effective measures to carry out this policy.

The Conference also passed a resolution that it was of opinion that the Governments of the Empire should make such arrangements among themselves as will ensure that the essential raw materials produced within the Empire should be available for the purpose of securing to the Empire and belligerent Allies the command of certain essential raw materials to enable them to repair the effects of the war as soon as possible, and to safeguard their industrial requirements. The Governments of the Empire should also arrange with the Allies to utilise for the same purposes the essential raw materials produced in the Allied countries.

The Conference further passed a resolution recommending that the Committee of the Conference should first consider the possible methods whereby each part of the Empire could obtain command of the essential raw materials referred to in the previous resolution, and that the Government, represented at the Conference should, in the light of the information collected by the committee, consult the representatives of the producers and the trades concerned regarding a method of obtaining command best suited to each commodity.

GERMANY'S REMAINING HOPE.

The *Times* states that the meetings of the Imperial Conference have continued articles in the German Press discussing the structure of the British Empire, by professors and other so-called experts, who are more modest than hitherto. Apparently they are almost convinced that the war offers to Germany no hope of seriously undermining British unity. Canada has almost entirely dropped out of discussion, but the Conservative journals cling to the hope that trouble can still be made between Japan and Australia about the future of the Pacific.

Forerunner, in a long article, entitled "Greater Britain," admits that the Empire has manifested a powerful military and political cohesion, supplemented by a strong tendency towards economic unity, and says that a customs union is likely, in which Great Britain must have a leading part. Germany's only remaining hope is in a quarrel between the Dominions and Great Britain owing to the failure of the latter to prevent the restoration of the German colonies.

SUGAR PRODUCTION WITHIN THE EMPIRE.

LONDON, July 1st.

In the House of Commons, Brig-General H. P. Croft asked:—Have the Government decided on a definite policy for sugar production within the Empire?

Mr. Bonar Law replied that the subject was being considered, and that he was well aware that the interest taken in the subject was Empire-wide.

M.P. "FROG-MARCHED" FROM CHAMBER.

LONDON, July 1st.

In the House of Commons, during the debate on the National Service Bill, the Speaker ordered Mr. Symington Billing to leave the Chamber for disorderly conduct. Mr. Billing refused, and the Sergeant-at-Arms was called in. Mr. Billing still refused, upon which the sitting was suspended and the attendant "frog-marched" him out of the Chamber.

WEST AUSTRALIAN LABOUR PARTY.

CONDEMNNS PEACE PROPAGANDA.

PERTH (W.A.), July 1st.

An enthusiastic meeting of the National Labour Party in the Town Hall, which was crowded, condemned and repudiated the peace propaganda. Mr. Scadden, ex-Labour Premier, declared that the man who suggested following Russia was a traitor.

(Continued on Page 6.)

INDIAN AFRICAN LINE

Cargo carried on through Bills of Lading from HONGKONG to BEIRA, DELAGOA BAY, DURBAN (Natal), EAST LONDON, PORT ELIZABETH and CAPE TOWN with transshipment at COLOMBO to Steamers of the INDIAN AFRICAN LINE.

ORIENTAL AFRICAN LINE.

Regular Direct Service from JAPAN, CHINA and STRAITS to BEIRA, DELAGOA BAY, DURBAN, EAST LONDON, PORT ELIZABETH and CAPE TOWN, calling at MAURITIUS en route, and affording the Quickest Freight Transport from the ORIENT to SOUTH AFRICA.

For particulars of sailings shippers are requested to apply to the undersigned.

THE BANK LINE LIMITED,
Managing Agents.

"ELLERMAN" LINE.

(REDFERN & BUCKNALL STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.)

JAPAN, CHINA AND STRAITS
TO
UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Cape of Good Hope at Owners' option.
Subject to change without notice.

For particulars of sailings shippers are requested to apply to the undersigned.

THE BANK LINE LIMITED,
General Agents.

C. N. C.
CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR STEAMERS TO SAIL.

SWATOW and SINGAPORE	"LINAN"	On 5th July, Noon.
SHANGHAI	"SUICHANG"	On 5th July, 5 P.M.
TIENTSIN	"HUICHOW"	On 7th July, 11 A.M.
SHANGHAI	"SUNGKIANG"	On 9th July, Noon.
SHANGHAI	"SUNNING"	On 11th July, 3 P.M.

SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS, MAILS and CARGO.
Excellent Saloon accommodation, Ample Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

For Freight or Passage apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Telephone 36

Agents

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA COAST PORT SERVICE.

REGULAR SERVICE of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good accommodation for First Class Passengers Electric Light and Fans in staterooms and Saloons and Excellent cuisine.

FOR

SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHEW
AND RETURN.

(Occupying 8 to 10 Days).

"SAITAN"	... Capt. A. E. Hodgins	THURSDAY, 4th July, at 3 P.M.
"HAIHONG"	... Capt. J. W. Evans	TUESDAY, 9th July, at 1 P.M.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (at the Elsie Pier).

For Freight and Passage apply to—
DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & CO.,
General Managers

BRITISH INDIA S. N. CO., LTD.

APCAR LINE.

REGULAR SERVICE BETWEEN
CALCUTTA STRAITS, SHANGHAI AND JAPAN PORTS

EASTWARD

WESTWARD

The above Steamer have excellent Saloon accommodation for Passengers and are fitted with all modern conveniences and carry a daily qualified surgeon.

For Freight or Passage apply to—
DAVID SASSOON & CO., LTD.,
Agents.

P. & O. S. N. CO.

ROYAL MAIL SERVICE

UNDER CONTRACT WITH HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT
TO

MARSEILLES AND LONDON.

TAKING PASSENGERS AND CARGO TO
STRAITS, COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, &c.

Steamers	Leave Hongkong	Connecting Mail	Due at	Due
to	from	to	from	at
COLOMBO	NOVA	Str. from Colombo	MARSEILLES	LONDON

When Passengers change Steamers at COLOMBO, Accommodation in the connecting Steamer from COLOMBO is definitely reserved in Hongkong at the time of Booking.
On the Australian Route Tickets interchangeable with Orient Line.

SAILINGS DIRECT TO
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

S.S.

LEAVE HONGKONG ABOUT

Passengers may travel by Railway in Japan between Ports of Call free of charge.

INTERMEDIATE STEAMERS

(Non-Transshipment).

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE MAIL STEAMERS,
WILL LEAVE DIRECT FOR

MARSEILLES AND LONDON.

Calling at SINGAPORE, PORT SWETENHAM, PENANG, COLOMBO
AND PORT SAID.
CARRYING 1ST AND 2ND SALOON PASSENGERS AT REDUCED RATES.
PROPOSED SAILINGS.

STEAMERS	Leave Hongkong about	Leave S'pore about	Due at Marseilles, if sailing about	Due London about
The Intermediate	Service is	Temporarily Suspended.		

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.
All Cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge and each Berth furnished with an Electric Reading Lamp.
Owing to the War in Europe Steamers and Sailing dates are liable to be cancelled or altered without notice.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees are reminded of the necessity to apply to the Company's Agents regarding arrival of consignments expected of which they have received documents or advice.
Any damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DUGLAS, at 10 A.M. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognized. No Claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.
For Further Information, Passage Fees, Freight, Handbooks, Dates of Sailing, etc., apply to

P. L. KNIGHT,
Acting Superintendent.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
(JAPAN MAIL S.S. CO.)

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

DESTINATION	STEAMERS & DISPLACEMENT	SAILING DATES
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	SADOMI MARU 12,500 tons	9th July, 11 A.M.
	KAWACHI MARU 12,500 tons	19th July, 11 A.M.
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	AKI MARU 12,500 tons	20th July, 11 A.M.
	TANGO MARU 12,500 tons	17th Aug. 11 A.M.

SHANGHAI, MOJI & KOBE ...

LONDON or LIVERPOOL via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, DELAGOA BAY & CAPE TOWN ...

MELBOURNE via MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, THURSDAY, IS., TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE & SYDNEY ...

NEW YORK via SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SAN FRANCISCO & PANAMA CANAL ...

BOMBAY via SINGAPORE, MALACCA & COLOMBO ...

CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & BANGKOK ...

‡ Omitting Shanghai and/or Moji. † Wireless telegraphy.

HONGKONG, VICTORIA, B.C., SEATTLE

MANILA, KEELUNG, SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI, SHIMIDZU & YOKOHAMA.

Operated by the magnificent and splendidly equipped passenger steamers "FUSHIMI MARU," "SUWA MARU," "KASHIMA MARU" and "KATORI MARU," each of over 20,000 tons displacement.

Next SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

† KATORI MARU ... Fri. 19th July, at 11 A.M.
† SUWA MARU ... Wed. 14th Aug. at 11 A.M.
‡ Omitting Manila Eastbound.

For further information apply to

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
R. MORI, Manager.

Telephone 262 and 263

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

SAN FRANCISCO LINE.

VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA, JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

FAST AND LUXURIOUS MAIL STEAMERS.

Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to Change Without Notice.

Steamers	Tons	Leave Hongkong
SHINYO MARU	23,000	TUES. 16th July
KOREA MARU	20,000	TUES. 18th Aug.
SIBERIA MARU	20,100	TUES. 27th Aug.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

HONGKONG to VALPARAISO via JAPAN, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SALINO CRUZ, BAILEIA, CALLAO, ARIACA AND IQUIQUE.

THENCE BY TRANS-ANDREAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

Steamers	Tons	Leave Hongkong
KIYO MARU	17,200	July 10th.
ANYO MARU	18,500	Sept. 6th.
NIPPON MARU	11,000	Nov. 8th.

Tickets are interchangeable with the CANADIAN PACIFIC OCEAN SERVICES, Ltd., and the PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.
Passengers may travel by Rail between Ports of Call in Japan free of Charge.
For full information as to rates, sailings, etc., apply to—

TELEPHONE 2274 and 2275.

T. DAIGO, Manager,
King's Building.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

SERVICE TO AND FROM JAPAN VIA SHANGHAI.
SERVICE TO AND FROM EUROPE.

Ports of call:—Yokohama, Kobe, Shanghai, Hongkong, Haiphong, Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Djibouti, Suez, Port Said, Marseilles.

ALL STEAMERS FITTED WITH WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

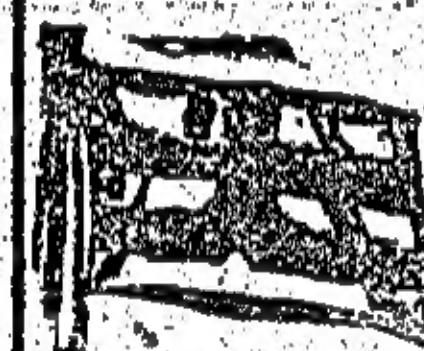
Return Tickets to Europe available for two years.

Return Tickets to Intermediate Ports available for six months.

For full particulars regarding sailings, apply to

TELEPHONE 740.

F. RADAMELLE,
Queen's Building.

O. S. K.
OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

REGULAR SERVICES, PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG
(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

GENOA LINE—Monthly service via Singapore, Bombay and Port Said.
MARSEILLES LINE—Taking cargo on through Bills of Lading with transshipment at Bombay to Company's steamers.

NORTH AMERICAN LINE—Regular fortnightly services between Hongkong and Puget Sound ports touching at intermediate ports in Japan.

"MANILA MARU" ... MONDAY, 22nd July, at 3 P.M.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE—Every two months the steamer proceeding to Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Buenos Aires, via Singapore, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town.

BOMBAY LINE—Regular fortnightly service for Bombay sailing at Singapore, and Colombo.

JAVA LINE—Monthly service for Batavia, Sourabaya and Semarang.

AUSTRALIAN LINE—Monthly service between Japan and Adelaide, calling Auckland, N.Z., Sydney and Melbourne.

FORMOSA LINE—The steamers will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside the Wharf Telephone No. 76 will be fixed.

KEELUNG via SWATOW and AMOY.

"KAJO MARU" ... SUNDAY, 7th July, at Noon.

TAKAO via SWATOW and AMOY.

"SOSHU MARU" ... THURSDAY, 4th July, at 3 A.M.

FOR SAILING DATES AND FURTHER PARTICULARS

Please Apply to—

K. YAMASAKI, Manager,
No. 1, Queen's Building.

CHINA MAIL S.S. CO., LTD.

FREIGHT AND PASSENGERS

"NANKING" (14,000 tons, American Registry).

"CHINA" (10,200 tons, American Registry).

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR

SAN FRANCISCO

VIA SHANGHAI, JAPAN PORTS AND HONOLULU.

"NANKING" August 7th. "CHINA" August 21st.

[An unsurpassed high-class passenger service.]

O. H. RITTER, Freight and Passenger Agent,
Ice House Street. Tel. 1242.

